Course in Vishva Bharti Shanti Niketan

4737. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2824, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th August, 2001 and state:

(a) the details of recommendations of the Committee appointed by UGC in order to assess the deviations from the prescribed terms and conditions of approval of outside institutions/courses by Vishva Bharti Shantiniketan, accepted by Government.

(b) the recommendations which were not accepted by Government and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken and mechanisms worked out between AICTE and Vishva Bharti, on the basis of the committee's recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) .The committee appointed by the UGC has recommended, *inter-alia*, as under:—

— to put a freeze on enrolment of any more students in any of the outside institutions after a specific date;

— the existing batches of students in the 'approved' institutions must be allowed to complete their courses.

— The Government alongwith the authorities of the University must lay down as to in what areas approval could be given in future and on what terms.

2. Following a detailed discussion held in the light of the objectives of Visva Bharati, the provisions of the relevant Ordinance and the recommendations made by the Committee appointed by the UGC, the following decisions, amongst others, were arrived at in consultation with the AICTE, UGC and Visva Bharati;

— Having regard to the facts that Visva-Bharati is not an affiliating University and that the University's Ordinance of

July, 1997 envisages neither conduct of degree level courses by outside institutions nor award of Visva-Bharati's degrees, the approval accorded to all the institutions by Visva-Bharati must be withdrawn and all further admissions to such institutions be stopped forthwith.

— With a view to safeguarding the interest of students already enroled at such institutions, the commitments already made by Visva-Bharati would be honoured.

However, subsequently the University conveyed its inability to withdraw the approvals accorded to all the institutions or even to stop fresh admissions. The Government has, therefore, invoked the powers of the Visitor in terms of Section 10(9) of the University Act.

Economic History Volumes by ICHR

4738. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council for Historical Research is publishing Economic History Volumes, like Towards Freedom;

(b) if so, how many volumes have been published, till date;

(c) the amount spent on publishing of those volumes;

(d) the number of volumes which are still pending for publication; and

(e) the present position of the remaining volumes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The Indian Council of Historical Research has informed that the Council is publishing volumes on Economic History Project, like Towards Freedom;

(b) Three volumes of Documents on Railway Construction in India covering the period 1832—1900 have already been published.

(c) Rs. 2,40,000/- was spent on the publication cost of these volumes.